

# **HOUSE . . . . . No. 1873**

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By Ms. Balser of Newton, petition of Ruth B. Balser and others to improve access to mental health services. Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

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## **The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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### **PETITION OF:**

Ruth B. Balser	Kay Khan
William N. Brownsberger	Barbara A. L'Italian
Matthew C. Patrick	David B. Sullivan
Steven J. D'Amico	

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In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

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### **AN ACT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1     Chapter 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004  
2     Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 135B  
3     the following new section:—  
4       Section 135C. A contract or agreement which creates or estab-  
5     lishes the terms of a partnership, employment, or any other form of  
6     professional relationship with a social worker licensed under this  
7     chapter, which includes a restriction of the right of the social worker  
8     to practice in any geographic area for any period of time after termi-  
9     nation of the partnership, employment or professional relationship  
10    shall be void and unenforceable with respect to the restriction; but,  
11    nothing herein shall render void or unenforceable the remainder of  
12    the contract or agreement.